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Witch way

The witches of Haliburton County joned together for their annual Halloween dance at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Saturday, Oct. 28. The full-day event offered tricks, treats, and lots of spooky scares on the property. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Minden rules property owners are on the hook for renter's fine

by JAMES MATTHEWS

 $Local\ Journalism\ Initiative\ Reporter$

It's as if renting a property through Airbnb is a means to consequence-free revelry for the renter and whatever fines may come to the owner.

Minden Hills property owner Timothy Groves described such a situation to township council during its Oct. 26 regular meeting. He was appealing a fine levied against him because of a recreational fire lit by a party of people who'd rented his property by way of Airbnb.

The campfire was lit during the summer's

county-wide ban on open-air fires.

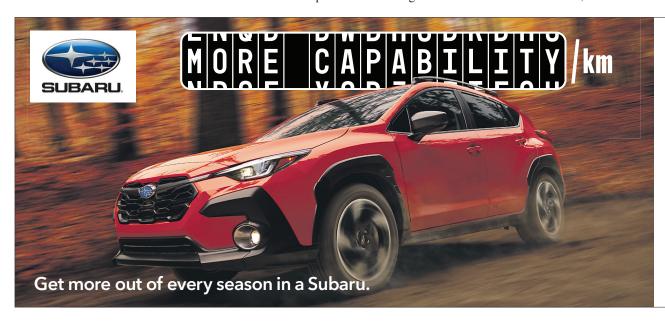
"If it's discretionary who you ticket and send an invoice to, if it's discretionary I would highly recommend that you send it to the person that actually did it versus somebody who wasn't even in the county at the time," Groves said.

On June 23, Groves had rented out his

property through the Airbnb platform. That renter, Groves said, had a fire when such recreational burning was prohibited throughout Haliburton County and, indeed, much of the province.

Dry conditions caused record forest fires through much of the province's northern and

see 'NOT page 2



MINDEN SUBARU

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'Zero options for care in this county'

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

The challenges of childcare in Haliburton County may be something not everyone witnesses, but they have the potential to completely impact every single demographic and sector in this community. From staff availability to local education to women in the workforce, the great daycare debacle is something that is far from over.

Currently, the waitlist to get into the one registered childcare facility in Minden, Compass Early Learning and Care, has a waitlist of over 270 kids, which is a huge leap from the 40 families waitlisted back in 2018. "Childcare as an industry is at a crisis point," said Compass supervisor Lindsay Jowett. "The need for childcare has changed exponentially."

Jowett noted that while the requirement for early childhood education has been prevalent for decades, the needs of the community have shifted in recent years; largely jolted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which reared its ugly head between 2020 and 2022 and is still lurking below the surface even

"There was definitely a COVID baby boom," said Jowett, "but there were also a lot of new families who relocated to the area during that time."

Jowett noted that the unpredictable nature of the pandemic also impacted the staffing of the facilities, citing uncertainty around mask mandates, concerns around working with a higher risk population, and COVID-driven burnout.

While the pandemic exacerbated the crisis point of local childcare, the industry has been fraught with challenges that started long before COVID-19 hit.

"I started here in 2017," said Jowett, "and I don't think I have ever known a time when we've been fully staffed."

Jowett shared that while Compass is a living wage employer, the nature of the industry puts them in direct competition with the local schools. "We really can't compete with school boards in terms of pay," she said. "And this is a hard job. Yes, it's very fulfilling, but it's really not easy."

Compass specifically focuses on children aged six months to six years - the chapter before they start public school fulltime. And while they are struggling to meet their adequate

staffing needs, Jowett noted that even if they were stacked for staffing, they could only accommodate 100 local children. With over 270 on the waitlist, they would barely be putting a dent in the community's needs.

This is a fact well-known by most local parents. On social media pages and Facebook forums, many soon-to-be moms are encouraged to jump on the waitlist for childcare early on in their pregnancy; and even then, there's a very likely chance they will not make the cut by the time their offspring

"I know of people who have had to quit or take extended unpaid leaves from work due to lack of childcare," said Teghan Griffith, a mom of two who is currently on maternity leave, and actively looking towards the future. "The whole situation does a huge disservice to parents and children because things are so desperate, you'd essentially have to just accept whatever care provider your lucky enough to get, rather than being able to see if it's a good fit for your child and at least somewhat aligned with your values.'

Griffith applied to 12 daycares for her children; including Buckhorn, Peterborough, Bobcaygeon, and Minden. While she was added to a waitlist for each one, she said the admin teams basically laughed when she asked what position she was at on that list. "I was told to write a letter to my MPP to complain," she said.

A big reason the government is tied into this shortage is due to the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system put in place, meaning that daycare costs for children under the age of six will not surpass \$10 a day. While this is beneficial to budgeters and critical in easing access to some childcare barriers, there does not seem to be any indication that staff will be compensated for the difference.

"Part of the solution to the childcare problem needs to come from the government," said Jowett, indicating that the facility can't keep up with the cost of living if the fees for daycare continue to subside.

In terms of home daycare, during those pre-COVID days, there seemed to be a series of unregistered facilities popping up. But as the world re-entered a world of safety and fragile security, trust seems to have wavered around these operations.



Childcare as an industry is at a crisis point, the need for childcare has changed exponentially.

— COMPASS SUPERVISOR LINDSAY JOWETT

'Sometimes you see them come up online," said Kyrie Stoll, a mom of two who is just returning to the working world, "but the values have changed, and it takes more to trust people working with your kids.'

While there is a notable shift in the parenting dynamic attached to those who stay home, according to Statistics Canada, nearly 60 per cent of stay at home parents are moms, while just over 30 per cent are dads.

This dynamic has an impact on women in the workplace; which by default, changes the nature of the workforce as a whole. "I have staff members who are valuable and driven, but only able to work a few select hours a week because they cannot find proper childcare," said Ashley McAllister, the director of Abbey Gardens. "It's the same for our volunteer roster and community events. We are always saying we need more people volunteering in our community, and new people to get involved, but so many of them just can't do it because they have zero options for care in this county.'

'Not a debate': Minden Council stands their ground on fees

from page 1

eastern parts. The wind brought all manner of torment such as smoke and ash and the fearsome smell of burning stands of trees.

"When you drive down Lutterworth Valley on Gull River, you see a fire ban sign," Groves said. "That sign is 50-feet or 60-feet from my property line. And you could smell it (the smoke) in the air.

He said he has no responsibility as a host to provide fire wood. And he doesn't provide the means for guests to have

"I don't even trust guests that rent my cottage to handle an axe," he said. "So I don't even provide an axe for kindling."

On the refrigerator inside the cottage, Groves has posted a request for renters to visit the Township of Minden Hills website to get an understanding of the fire regulations.

"We even state the bylaw and (website) link," he said. "And we put the onus on the person, the guest, because we can't be the police for everybody for every certain thing.

Groves referenced in his appeal to council Part 6, penalties and costs, of the municipality's bylaw for regulating fires.



The legislation states: "Any person and/or owner setting, maintaining or allowing to be set or maintained, an open-air fire or fireworks and in contravention of the terms of this bylaw shall be responsible for any damages to property or person occasioned by said fire.'

And here's the rub: Even though he's the property owner, he was 200 kilometres away from Minden Hills and the property when the fire occurred.

"We didn't allow it to be set," he said.

He saw there was a firefighter on scene when he checked the property's security camera, so he contacted the guests and asked what was happening.

"(The renter) said we lit a fire ... the fire person's here, the crew's here," Groves said. "We immediately contacted Airbnb. At that point, they broke our house rules, so at that point they became a trespasser."

He said to council that it should have been such that the person who lit the fire was fined. As it is, it's become impossible for him to collect any money from Airbnb with Groves' name on the fine invoice, he said. The fine citation should have had the renter's name, he said.

He's tried to find out which person of the group lit the fire. But the Airbnb platform does not allow property owners to have the telephone numbers and permanent addresses of

"So I can't even pursue this in small claims court because I can't provide an identification of the person that actually did it," he said. "So I'm kind of stymied because I didn't do it. I didn't maintain it. I didn't allow it to be maintained.'

He asked that council take into consideration that as soon as the renters lit the fire they became trespassers on his

Councillor Ivan Ingram said he can appreciate how Groves feels about the situation.

"But, to me, reality is that you rented your cottage, you're responsible for it regardless of who is there," Ingram said.

"If the person commits a murder, am I to do the time?" Groves said.

"If your house burns down are they (renters) going to pay for it?" Ingram said.

'My insurance will cover it," Groves said.

"Okay," Ingram said.

"Okay," Groves said. "So I'm underwriting Minden Hills Fire Department?"

"No," Ingram said. "You're receiving income as a business renting your cottage.

Groves said the crux of the issue is that the bylaw state that any person setting the fire is responsible. "I didn't set it," he

"If I may, this is not a debate," said Mayor Bob Carter. "You are making a presentation to us and we can ask you some questions, but we're not going to engage in a debate here. If you've given us all of your information ... then we can say thank you.'

"Thank you. I don't want to debate either," Groves said. Coun. Tammy McKelvey said she was prepared to deny Groves' appeal of the penalty.

"We can't start chasing somebody we don't know," she said. "It's got to be homeowners."

This isn't over because I feel it's unjust," Groves said.

"I'm going to look to a higher court, provincial level."

"You have that right," Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said. "Maybe a judge ...," Groves said as Schell said there was a resolution before council for consideration and Groves asked to finish his statement.

"May I finish?" Groves said.

"No you actually can't," she said. "I'm sorry, sir, we already have the resolution set in motion."

That motion was that council deny the request to waive the \$809.03 penalty.

It passed.

'You are home where you feel loved'

by BRITNEY PAGLIUCA

Times Staff

"You are home where you feel loved."

I have carried this quote with me from adolescence, holding onto the idea that a home is not merely the place you were born or a house, but a feeling of belonging, acceptance

I grew up in a suburb in Toronto. A misfit amongst the city dwellers, I longed for adventure and more time spent outdoors, but also a sense of togetherness that I felt was lacking in the big city. After I graduated from high school, I spent years searching for these things. I lived in Australia, British Columbia, Alberta, Thunder Bay (ON), and eventually made my way back to Toronto to complete my bachelor's degree in history at Toronto Metropolitan University.

There I met my best friend, a homesteader of Tory Hill and local to Haliburton County. The invitation to live with her and her mom on their farm in 2020 was my first introduction to what makes this county so magical. Not only its beautiful lakes and landscapes, but its welcomeness and unwavering devotion to community and to each other. Three years later, now living in Minden, I am still so grateful and proud to call Haliburton County my home.

It's hard to find the words to express how honoured and

excited I am to be taking on the role as a news reporter for the Haliburton Echo and Minden Times. For me, it is a chance to immerse myself into the community through your stories, events, ideas and passions. As a reporter, I recognize my unique opportunity and obligation, to amplify voices that may otherwise go unheard, to encourage collective engagement and collaboration, and to share stories that make each of us proud to be part of this community.

A Haliburton local once told me that you're only a local if your family has been here for three generations. I laughed. My family hasn't even lived in Canada that long. So where is my home? Well as I decided throughout my many years of searching ... you are home where you feel loved.

I have found that here, and so much more. And I promise to try, through my work at the Haliburton Echo and Minden Times, to give back to you all of which you have shared with me. Thank you for inviting me into your home and letting me call it my home too.

While some of you may recognize me from my time spent working at Maple Avenue or the Kinark Outdoor Centre, I know that to many of you I am a new face in the community but a friendly one at that!

Please feel free to introduce yourself or reach out to me at britneyp@haliburtonpress.com.

I can't wait to meet you all and delve into all the things that make Haliburton County such a magical place.



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VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

> November 09- Regular Council Meeting November 30- Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL **CENTRE FOUNDATION**

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Wednesday, December 13 at 4 pm. All members of the MHCCF are welcome to attend. Please email mindenhillsccfoundation@gmail.com for more information.

WASTE DISPOSAL

Please dispose of your hunting shell casings properly:

- Used metal shell casings can be recycled with scrap metal • Used plastic shell casings can be placed in with your household
- Unused ammunition is not accepted at any Waste Disposal Site and should be returned to the OPP for safe handling.

A reminder that animal carcasses or remains are not accepted at our Waste Disposal Sites.

CULTURAL CENTRE

Shifting Lens, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display until November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca

Join the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library for a special screening of the documentary Unwanted Soldiers, taking place at the Cultural Centre on Thursday, November 9 starting at 5 pm. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Proceeds will go to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 636 - Minden. The film is provided courtesy of the NFB. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca

PA Day movies at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre! The Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library welcome you to join us in a series of PA Day movies during the school calendar vear of 2023 and 2024. On every PA Day starting at 1:00 PM, there will be a free, family-friendly movie screening that takes place in the Welch Room of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Our next movie is scheduled for Friday, November 17. No registration is required. Snacks will be provided, however, please feel free to bring your own as well. The movie of choice will be decided by voters who cast their votes at the Haliburton County Public Library, Minden Branch, or online at the following link: https://www.haliburtonlibrary.ca/Programs-Events/PA-Day-Movies?id=1696611600-186416. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca

Christmas in the Village takes place on Saturday, November 18 from 11 am - 3 pm. Visit Santa from 12-2 pm and sip hot chocolate as you tour the heritage village. Don't miss the Old-Fashioned candy shop, fresh baked goods for sale in the Bowron House, hands-on activities and games for children and our outdoors Artisan's Market. We are also accepting vendors for our Artisan Market. The registration fee is \$10 for a 10'x10' area. Please contact culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763 x 542 to reserve your spot.

PUBLIC WORKS: WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Furthermore, parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense

TIME TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS AND THE BATTERIES IN ALL SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Clocks will fall back one hour at 2am on Sunday November 5 and the Minden Hills Fire Department is recommending residents install new batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms when they change their clocks. Don't forget to check the date on your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms they need to be replaced every 10 years



MH council holds off on corporate plan contract

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Hey Minden Hills, where're you going? For the staff running a municipality, that's a tough question to answer without a corporate strategic plan. Regardless, the wait for such a plan continues.

Greg Bedard, the township's finance director, informed council during its Oct. 26 meeting that a clearer idea of where the municipality is headed, goal-wise, could've been in the offing as a contract had been awarded for a corporate strategic plan.

Council was asked to give the contract for a corporate strategic plan to StrategyCorp who would've done the work for \$49,821 plus taxes. Council also would've needed to increase the coin from the 2023 capital budget project approved \$50,000 to a limit of \$56,000.

In the end, council decided to defer its greenlighting of the contract until municipal staff can bring council a clearer picture of what it is they would be buying by awarding the contract.

The development of a corporate strategic plan was included in the 2023 capital budget for \$50,000 to be funded from the administration reserve. But, factoring in project costs, graphic design costs, and unrecoverable tax, the total project cost was estimated to be as much as \$55,800.

That's why staff recommended council increase the purse to \$56,000.

According to a staff report to council, a corporate strategic plan is a guiding and visionary document intended to take the township from its current state to its idealized state through the setting of goals, targets and principles.

The township currently does not have a strategic plan.

"The establishment of overarching goals, set by council and based on the short-term and long-term vision of the township, will enable staff to set work plans to achieve the plan's objectives," staff wrote in a report to

"The strategic planning process is collaborative and will bring together council, staff, and the public through meetings, questionnaires, and interviews."

Haliburton County put together a joint procurement process for Minden Hills, Highlands East, and Algonquin Highlands for a corporate strategic plan.

While the county facilitated the procure-

ment process, each municipality was indi- with the new CAO in the new year and we now," Bedard said. "That is simply not sufvidually responsible for evaluating submissions and making a recommendation to their respective council.

"So now will we finally be able to finally see what we bought?" Mayor Bob Carter said. "I know that, because of the process that we went through with the county, we weren't able to see all the details. If we now buy it, will we be able to see the details of exactly what we have?

Vicki Bull, the township's clerk, said it's possible to set up a meeting with the county to discuss the next steps in the process.

"There'll be a laid-out plan of what the consultant's first steps are and staff are happy to follow up with those," she said.

The financial submission does not include graphic design costs, estimated by StrategyCorp to be done by their in-house team at a cost \$5,000. The creation of highimpact and accessible materials is paramount to ensuring communications are clear and compelling for different audiences.

StrategyCorp's commitment to accessibility was noted during evaluations as the only proponent that utilized alternative text in their submission.

"I don't like buying a car unless I've seen it," said Councillor Tammy McKelvey. "I think this is over budget so we could maybe just not accept this at this time and look towards next year when we have a new CAO in place and maybe be a little more involved in the (request for proposals) process of what we'd like to see.

"Perhaps bring it back down to do it at the township level."

Coun. Bob Sisson said StrategyCorp's bid was the highest of four tenders submitted. And, as per the points system by which bids are evaluated, the second and winning bids aren't that far apart, he said.

"That's my real big concern," Sisson said. "I'm okay with the ... rating process and who they selected," Carter said. "Like Coun. McKelvey, I'd really hate to buy a car without seeing it. And that's my total feeling about this right from the beginning."

Carter said he understands it was done through the county as a means to achieve a better price. Many municipalities throughout Ontario undertake a joint procurement process to get bundle price rates.

"In terms of the funding, our funding is pretty close," Carter said about the coin budgeted for a corporate strategic plan. "I just want to make sure that we start the process take control of it."

To go through the whole process again will cost more time and money, the mayor said.

"As long as we can control this, that we can go ahead," Carter said. "But we certainly don't start until after the new CAO is on

McKelvey asked if that would even be possible, to delay a project for something like six months when there may be timelines for the

"The timelines proposed for completion were based on the specifications of the proposal," Bedard said, and added that a first draft of the plan was likely expected by the end of the year.

"Wow," Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said. "Obviously, we're at the end of October

ficient with where we stand today. We could revisit with the proponent, if they're okay with starting in January. I'd imagine that timeline would work."

Sisson said he's not in favour of agreeing to the highest bid for the job, and he really doesn't care about the county's perspective on the matter.

Hiring a new CAO, coupled with getting an asset management plan off the ground and some other things that are in the offing for the municipality, McKelvey said it's best to give at least six months before the work to hammer out a corporate strategic plan begins.

"I feel that the rationale that we can utilize to not accept this right now is that it's over budget," McKelvey said.



Minden Rotary Celebrity Clowns were at the Minden Pride Street Fest on Sunday, Aug. 27. /FILE photo

Minden Rotary nose' kindness

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

Minden started clowning around a little more this past year.

And no, I don't mean the circus came to town. I'm talking about Minden Rotary's celebrity clown initiative. "So far, we've raised nearly \$3000 in our clown campaign," said Sally Moore, a member of Minden Rotary.

The idea around the movement is to raise money for the community by adding a little iov and celebration to each community event. For a tax-deductible donation of \$200 or more, individuals can have the opportunity to either sponsor a clown, or dress up as a celebrity clown in the community.

So far, the clowns have been spotted at Canada Day, Rotary Fest, and Minden Pride Week, but they're just getting the ball rolling.

Their next project is the Santa Claus Parades, in both Minden and Haliburton. For this event, the clowns will be carrying around big red noses that they want to fill up with cash donations; all of which will be donated directly to the Minden Community Food Centre.

But there's just one problem: no one carries cash anymore.

"We know we need to tell people about this in advance," said Moore, "because we know people don't remember to carry cash on them anymore. And this is the big dilemma."

The collections at the Santa Claus parades will be the big holiday fundraiser for Minden Rotary this year, and the main opportunity for the group to accept donations in-person over the season.

That's why they want it to be as big as possible. "We're so saddened by the fact that there are so many people needing the food centre," said Moore. "But we all understand that this is a time in our lives where we just don't carry cash on us.'

But Moore and Minden Rotary have come up with a solution: bring your piggy banks. "We all have some money tucked away in our homes," she said, "in a spare drawer, in a piggy bank. We want everyone to bring those banks to the parade and add to the red noses."

Moore said that everyone donating will get a little red nose as a thank you. "So that everyone 'nose' our community supports the food centre," she said.

The Minden Santa Claus parade is scheduled Nov. 18, 2023 in downtown Minden, and the Haliburton parade is scheduled for Nov. 24, 2023.



Sweat Social; a place for the parents

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

For Chelsea Adamson, Haliburton was always the end goal.

The owner of Sweat Social Fitness and mom of two young kids has added an energy to the community in less than a year - and was recently recognized for it at the annual Chamber Awards Gala on Oct. 20, winning new business of the year.

"This gym is community based," she said, "so to be recognized as a whole, for all that we do, that feels amazing."

Adamson originally hails from Sarnia, Ontario, but went out to Alberta for work in her 20s. It was here that she met her "partner in business and life", Justin Abbs. "From literally the first kiss, we knew exactly what we wanted. We wanted to open a gym, back home, and have kids," Adamson said. "Every decision we made between that moment and now has led us to this point."

The couple moved back to Haliburton when Adamson was 20 weeks pregnant, and hit the ground running with their vision for a gym in the area.

Adamson and Abbs now have two children; a son who is 19-months-old, and a daughter who is three-years-old. As a lifelong lover of fitness and wellness, Adamson was constantly seeking opportunities to continue her passion; particularly in a postpartum chapter. "Fitness is such an important part of my life, and I always wanted fitness to be a staple in my kids' lives as well," she said, "but I couldn't find anywhere I fit in here.'



Patti Tallman of HCDC presented Chelsea Adamson and Justin Abbs with the award for new business of the year at the annual Chamber Gala Awards on Oct. 20 at Sir Sam's. The couple started Sweat Social Fitness in Haliburton less than a year ago. /Photo submitted

It wasn't until she sat down with Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC), when her son was a mere eight-weeks-old, that she realized that the idea for a gym that was inclusive for parents and children may actually be something that's missing in the community. "Sweat Social at the time was a social media page I was running while the kids napped," she said, "but it was so amazing how things worked out."

On Nov. 17, 2022, the doors to the first brick and mortar Sweat Social opened up.

Located in the heart of the Wellness Hub at 135 Industrial Park Road in Haliburton, the gym offers high end equipment, training sessions, and nutrition-based seminars.

And at the core, Adamson prioritizes parents who want to participate. "I am completely passionate about parent fitness," she said. "We think it's super when kids are in the room. And really, I'm supplying the space and giving guidance along the way, but it's the people who come in that really create that inclusive environment."

On Mondays and Wednesdays, Adamson offers "Babies and Barbells" sessions, where parents can bring their kids of all ages to the gym, and everyone works together to support, encourage, and care for both the mothers and the babies.

'It's inspiring," she said, while she herself held her now 19-month-old son. "You get to see the kids light up, and say things like 'wow my mom is so strong!""

In terms of joining a gym, Adamson knows full well that the concept can be intimidating; particularly for postpartum mothers. "But we have people of all ages and experience levels doing the same program," she said, "and it's very easy to scale to your level."

Adamson noted that the first class is free, and participants are greeted with a coach who will support them, and walk them through the equipment prior to jumping in. There is also a magic to the existing participants being there; cheering newcomers on, and encouraging them to continue coming.

In the last 30 days, Adamson has seen over 1000 logins (meaning folks who have either booked in or logged in), for the programs, with normally 50 to 60 easily seen each day.

As Sweat Social continues to evolve and Adamson watches her children grow up with fitness at their core, she can't help but reflect on how far she's come in less than a year. "It really takes a village," said Adamson, which she related to all components of her life: starting a business, committing to a fitness program, and raising kids in Haliburton County with strength, resilience, and a little extra sweat.











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n, mother

S I WROTE my stories for the week, a universal theme began to crop up.

A mother who is striving to build an online community to forge connections worldwide.

A mother aiming to create a safe space for other mothers focusing on

A mother who is worried about where her children can receive care in this community.

Mothers. Strong, mighty, powerful, resilient, mothers.

I would be remiss to say that fathers aren't there at all. While Millennials are the butt of many generational jabs, it's also apparent that they're one of the first groups of fathers who are

hands-on and completely involved with their kids; more so than many of the generations that came before them.

But mothers. Mothers show no shortage of strength in this community. And I find it absolutely fascinating that they can accomplish so much, while also balancing the weight of raising a family.

Mothers carry the majority of what is known as the mental load. So yes, there are groceries and the dishes and laundry, but beyond that, there is the constant whirring of brain power that hasn't taken a nap since the first moment those children came into existence.

I'm talking about schedules, remembering significant dates, registering for extra-curriculars. keeping communications with schools, and knowing that your oldest likes her chicken with ketchup and the youngest only eats it with ranch dressing and never the two shall meet. Ever. Seriously, I mean it. Ever.

Mothers balance the physical challenges of parenting alongside the mental load, and then are still expected to be contributing members of society, focus on work, exercise regularly, meet

with their friends, care for their aging parents, and make sure the dog gets their walk at the end of the day.

It's a lot.

The expectations laden on mothers go beyond the realm of realistic. This is why so many mothers feel isolated, alone, and insular.

But what I saw this week is that there are mothers out there trying to change that. Mothers trying to break down those walls society builds around us, and rewrite the narrative of what it means to step into this role.

There isn't a 'one size fits all' approach to motherhood. What I am seeing more and more is women taking whatever role they have by the horns, and altering the stigma that surrounds

> it. Being a stay at home mom is a feat of strength, being a working mom is a mastery of balance, being a social mom is a quest for connection, being a quiet mom is a triumph for security.

> And of course, to be a mother doesn't always mean flesh and blood. I myself am a step-mother to two girls who make my

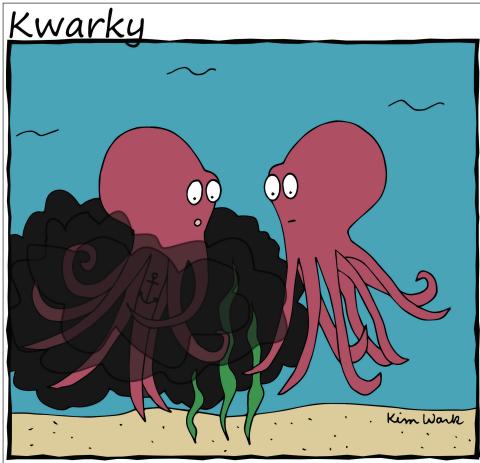
world turn, and I recognize the wide variety of individuals who fall into the boundless category of mothering.

I feel hopeful as I see this generation of mothers. This is a time in our lives that while social media can present a land of comparisons and insecurities, it can also offer a platform for people to know that they are not alone. That they are a part of something bigger, broader, and so much more powerful than they

And with strong mothers, comes strong children. The next generation of leaders, of doers, of dreamers. People who are emotionally intelligent, grounded, and connected to the natural world in ways we haven't seen in the many generations before.

So here's to mothers. Strong, mighty, powerful, resilient, mothers.

They truly make our world turn.



"I inked it myself."

Wash day

STEVE GALEA

Beyond 35

BELIEVE I smell a skunk," the old farmer said to me. "And it seems to be mighty close too."

At times like this, a hunter's mind works overtime to formulate a response that tells the truth, but not in a way that will sound like bragging.

"I think you might be catching a whiff of my old grouse hunting vest," I replied with as much false modesty as I could muster. "It's a far better imitation, if you stand down wind."

And then I moved upwind to demonstrate.

"Well, I'll be darned. That is potent," he said, as he wiped his watery eyes.

To say I was more than a bit proud of this would have been an understatement. After all, this guy was a lifelong bachelor and a hog farmer.

Needless to say, not even the best of us acquires that kind of odour on a grouse hunting vest in one outing. Sure, I had a friend who ran smack dab into a skunk on his first day wearing his new garment, but the rest of us are not so lucky. No, if we want a vest that stinks to high heaven, we have to work for it.

Right now, the non-grouse hunters are probably wondering why anyone would want a grouse vest that stinks to high heaven?

Well, let me just say, it's not merely about aesthetics. There are many practical reasons too.

For instance, this alone ensures that no one is ever going to steal your vest. Yet, if they do, it won't be hard to find. Secondly, people will not bother asking you if you shot anything, because it clearly smells like there is something

dead in your vest. Lastly, if you have a vest or two like this, your partner will have no problem with you building a garage, bunkie, barn, safe room, or cabin to store your stuff in.

As previously noted, seasoning a vest to this level of excellence is not an easy task. It requires hard work and a lot of days in the field that include the odd slip in a muddy swamp, a few forgotten birds or squirrels in the game pouch, sitting for

> hours in the cab of a truck with your hunting buddies, sweat, accidentally standing below an incontinent treed porcupine, and a close encounter or two with a bear and her cubs.

> Not to brag, but I had just such a vest, until an unfortunate incident occurred last week. Yup, it got rained on.

This would not have been so bad if Jenn hadn't noticed

it hanging on the coat rack while she was looking for a "skunk." This caused her to pick up my vest and say, "This thing needs a good wash."

As a result, I had to empty all the pockets and take it downstairs and throw it in the washing machine. And then the dryer.

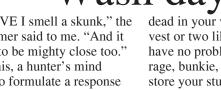
After this process was complete, the first thing I thought was, "Oh yeah, that's what hunter orange looks like." Then I thought, there is something missing. It turned out to be that rancid smell.

Jenn confirmed this when she came downstairs and said, "Wherever that skunk was, it appears to have left the premises."

Then, for the first time ever, she asked whether I had shot anything that morning.



EMILY STONEHOUSE Editor



INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Living in a world of despair

There is much controversy over whether mental illness is a significant cause of mass shootings, which are becoming a common occurrence, notably in the gun-crazy United States of America.

Whenever another mass shooting occurs, many conclude that mental illness was to blame.

Two of last week's most horrific mass shootings – one in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and the other in Lewiston, Maine are examples. When you read about a Sault man shooting to death a woman, his own three children, then himself

how can you not think 'this guy was mentally ill.'



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

Or the Maine massacre in which a man went on a rapid-fire rampage in a bowling alley, then a bar. How can someone kill 18 people, wound another 13 and not be mentally ill?

The Maine killer had been treated for mental illness earlier this year, but the Sault rifleman was not known to have anything wrong with him mentally except a bad temper.

The general public tends to link mental illness with mass shootings and other violence. Psychiatry experts, however, say severe mental illness is not a key

factor in most mass murders.

A study by Columbia University in New York reports that only five per cent of mass shootings are related to severe mental illness. The experts, however, have a much narrower definition of mental illness than the general public.

The experts consider severe mental illness as schizophrenia or psychotic disorders and not lesser problems like depression and substance abuse. Most of us think anyone acting beyond what we consider normal as a bit crazy.

Our federal government also has a wider definition of mental illness, reporting that one in three Canadians will be affected by mental illness in their

Mental illness is a major problem worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) says that roughly 450 million people currently struggle with mental illness. It is considered to be the leading cause of disability

But all the talk about it being a major factor in mass killings is a red herring that takes attention away from the real issue – guns. Without mental illness there would still be mass shootings. Without guns there would be no mass

Soldiers, law enforcement, hunters and sport shooters are the people who should be allowed guns. There is no need for anyone else to have one. And there are plenty of rules and regulations to ensure that those allowed to have them use them safely and responsibly.

Instead of debating how much of a factor mental health is in mass shootings we should be discussing how mental illness is affecting so many other aspects of our lives.

Numerous surveys and studies report that world unhappiness has increased to record highs. They point to a growing trend in which negative feelings such as worry, sadness and anger rose by 27 per cent around the world between

WHO estimates that one person dies by suicide every 40 seconds. More than 4,000 Canadians kill themselves every year – an average of 11 a day.

Canadian medical authorities say drug overdoses now account for more deaths than automobile accidents.

The overall problem of mental illness – not just how it might affect mass killings – needs to become a number one priority for our society. What's making the world so unhappy and how do we change that?

The role of digital media is a good place to start examining the problem. Time on the Internet, gaming, texting and social media have taken us away from two key elements for creating happiness – exercise and being with

Too many people spend more time in front of screens than on exercising or having face- to-face contact with friends. Also, digital media gives us more contact with the negative and destructive side of humanity than with the good things happening around us.

People say things online that they would never say in person. Things that often lead to hurt feelings, bullying and other nastiness that feeds mental health

We need to become more informed and thinking intelligently about all these issues if we don't want to live in a world that falls deeper into despair.

It's time to unshackle Canada's small businesses

FRANK STRONACH

Principles

T'S UNDERSTANDABLE why many people often refer to small businesses as the backbone of our economy

For one, small businesses develop a majority of the new breakthrough products and innovative technologies that fuel Canada's

economic growth.

But more importantly, they generate most of the new jobs in this country. According to the latest Government of Canada statistics, small businesses accounted for 98 per cent of all companies that employed people. As of 2021, small businesses employed more than 8 million people in Canada,

which represents close to 70 per cent of the total private sector workforce. So, if small business is so vital to our country's economic well-being, why aren't

we doing more to champion their success and promote even greater growth? World-famous entrepreneur Sir Richard Branson, the founder of global companies

such as Virgin Atlantic and Virgin Mobile, once noted that all big businesses start That's certainly true of my own compa-

ny. When I started Magna International Inc. in the late 1950s, I opened a one-man tool and die shop in a rented garage in downtown Toronto. I bought some used equipment and slept on a small cot inside the shop. I drummed up my first sale by knocking on the door of the American Standard factory right next to my tool shop.

I hired my first employee after one month. And by the end of my first year of operation, I had ten workers on the company payroll. My small company began to take off: we added new customers, hired more people, and made more money.

We should have thousands of new startups like the company I founded all over Canada today. But unfortunately, we don't.

In fact, I've often wondered: if I were to start Magna all over again today, instead of more than 50 years ago, would I have been able to grow the company as quickly as I

did with all the shackles we put on small business nowadays? I very much doubt it.

We've placed so many obstacles in the way of small businesses and burdened them with countless regulations and rules that

> it's no wonder so many small business don't survive more than a few years after opening their doors.

> So, what's the answer? I've been arguing in this column for the creation of a new Canadian Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, and one of the foremost principles in that charter is the elimination of corporate income tax for any small busi-

ness with 300 employees or less.

The one condition attached to eliminating income tax is that the small business owner has to reinvest most of the profits back into growing the business and hiring more employees. The government would receive far more in personal income taxes from the new jobs that small business creates than it ever would by simply taxing those same businesses.

We've got to stop holding back our entrepreneurs by taxing them into the ground and making them jump through countless bureaucratic hoops. If we eliminated all income tax for small business, everyone would win: government would rake in more taxes on business sales, Canadians would have more job opportunities, and entrepreneurs would finally get a fair reward for bearing all of the risks associated with running a business.

By implementing this one single economic action and unshackling small business, we would ignite the Canadian economy and set our country on a path of phenomenal growth.

Author Bio

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame. fstronachlpc@gmail.com

HCPL's Book of the Week



In the years since a mysterious cataclysm caused a permanent blackout that toppled infrastructure and thrust the world into anarchy, Evan Whitesky has led his community in remote northern Canada off the rez and into the bush, where they've been rekindling their Anishinaabe traditions, isolated from the outside world. But resources around their new settlement are running out.

Evan and his teenaged daughter are chosen to lead a scouting party on a months-long trip down to their traditional home on the shores of Lake Huron to seek new beginnings, and discover what kind of life - and what danger - still exists in the lands to the south.

Moon of the Turning Leaves by Waubgeshig Rice is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.



Halloween happenings in the Hills

Haunting in Minden Hills was held at the Cultural Centre on Saturday, Oct. 28 and featured special spooky activities like a zombie dance workshop, facepainting, pumpkin carving, Halloween games, and costume contests organized by the Township of Minden Hills. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*











What is science and the perils of "doing your own research"

TOLLOW THE science" and "do ✓ your own research" are phrases often thrown about when someone is trying to make a persuasive argument about a particular topic, often in online discussions. However, often these phrases aren't said or heard with a full understanding

of what science and research actually are. Science and research are not just a quick Google search.

Science can basically be summed up as the systematic development of knowledge around a particular thing that occurs in the world such that we can form testable explanations and make predictions based on those explanations. Research is also the development of knowledge, and is a part of scientific exploration as well as other disciplines

such as the arts and humanities. Research includes the creation of new knowledge, as well as the organization and analysis of existing knowledge.

Scientists and researchers spend most of their lives studying one particular thing and becoming experts about that thing. One of my professors in university studied a single molecule involved in a single biological process in a particular species of bacteria. This one specialization – one molecule doing one thing in one tiny little organism - has enough to explore in it to provide a lifetime of study opportunities for multiple people around the world.

When scientists study a particular thing, and through experimentation discover something new, they document their findings in a scientific paper. Those findings more often than not are scrutinized by a group of their peers for any potential mistakes or flaws in their methods prior to being accepted for publication - this process is called peer review. Peer review helps to ensure that the

> method used to arrive at the findings is sound, that potential bias has been accounted for, and that incorrect conclusions have been avoided. These published papers help add to the overall body of knowledge about a topic.

> Just because a scientist has published a paper about a thing doesn't mean that's the end of the story. Researchers compare that paper with multiple other papers about the same topic to discern if the same conclusions have

been drawn by multiple scientists, or if multiple conclusions have been drawn, whether the overall body of knowledge supports one conclusion over another.

This is how scientific knowledge evolves over time. New knowledge is added, incorrect conclusions are weeded out, and new ideas are explored. Science strives to provide the best knowledge we have at the time, while acknowledging that in a complex world we will inevitably discover something new that changes the conclusions we made before. This is why what you may have learned in high school biology (in my case, over 20 years ago), isn't always the most up-to-date information to work from.

When we as laypeople (non-scientists) "do

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our own research", we aren't really doing research. We're usually looking for information on a topic that interests us in such a way that fills a gap in our knowledge or supports a preconceived notion we have about how the world works. Your most satisfying Google searches likely end with a "HaHA! I knew it!" Rather than a "Boy did I get that wrong." Often, we're seeking to validate our own worldview, rather than seeking knowledge.

Likewise, when we say we "follow the science", we aren't performing our own studies and contributing to a body of knowledge. Rather we are usually following someone who is telling us about science. There are perils there too. Are we following well-trained science communicators who are well-versed with the up-to-date scientific literature and cite their sources? Or are we following charismatic people with opinions who make us feel a certain way but who don't really back up their claims?

One of the most meaningful moments in

my university education was when I was early for a class and listening to a lecture from out in the hallway. The professor said the most important thing the future scientists in his class needed to learn to say was "I don't know." As human beings, it's impossible for us to know everything about everything. That's why we need experts. And a trustworthy expert will always say "I don't know" when a question falls outside of their scope of expertise. It may not be the most satisfying answer for someone seeking certainty, but it's an honest one.

It's also important for us to say "I don't know." Rather than trying to form an opinion by using Google to bolster our preconceived worldview, we need to be curious and search for good information from real scientists and researchers. These are experts who have devoted their lives to making the understanding of our world better, even if it is just one tiny molecule at a time.





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Humans and Technology

Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden Fri, November 17 1:00pm







Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com

Huskies look to bounce back after 0-3 week

by ALEX GALLACHER

Special to the Times

The Haliburton County Huskies faced a difficult last week of October, facing three powerhouse squads from Milton, St. Michael's and Cobourg. With the Huskies coming fresh off a huge road win against the Trenton Golden Hawks, the momentum was there for what could've been a hard charge up the standings.

Before the games were played, GM Ryan Ramsay announced a trade. Huskies rookie and Merrimack College commit Declan Bowmaster would be dealt to defending champs Collingwood in exchange for forward Nick Lamont and Goalie Brett Fullerton.

Lamont enters his third year of OJHL competition and the Huskies will serve has his fourth team having spent time in Aurora, Collingwood and Toronto. Lamont is a 2005born forward, and logged 39 points during his breakout year in Toronto last season.

Fullerton enters the Huskies from the OHL's Saginaw Spirit while also having played for the Blues. Logging a .930 save percentage with Collingwood, Fullerton spent 15 games with the OHL's Spirit and made his Huskies debut against the Buzzers.

Milton's a Dennis, a Menace

The 13th in Canada ranked Milton Menace came to visit the Nesbitt on Tuesday, for a weeknight showdown against the boys in

The Huskies got off to a rocky start as injuries plagued the entire team, Connor Driscoll opened up the scoring on the power



The boys switched out their blue and white jerseys for pink on Saturday, Oct. 28 for the annual Pink in the Rink game to raise funds and awareness for those battling breast cancer. The Huskies took on the Cobourg Cougars and lost 4-1 at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

play to give Milton the lead midway through the first. Ivan Fabjan scored short handed to double that advantage in the first minute of the second, giving the Huskies a 2-0 hole to

Dig out they did, as Lucas Stevenson and Patrick Saini scored back to back goals to tie the game up at two and give the Minden faithful a reason to get up on their feet.

The elation was short lived as Gavin Sheehan, Nicholas Wereha and Driscoll again, added more goals to the Menace's lead and sent the Huskies back to the locker room

with a disappointing 5-2 loss.

St. Mike's feels like buzzin'

The Huskies made the trip on Friday to the St Michael's College Arena to take on the Buzzers. This game marked the debuts of Lamont and Fullerton, the newest adds to the Huskies roster.

Charlie Fink got the party started scoring an early goal at 4:03 to give the Huskies the early lead. The Buzzers stormed back with a pair of their own, courtesy of David Green and David Elmy. The Huskies found themselves trailing once again heading into the locker room, but the second period proved to a much better. Despite the Buzzers adding a goal to make it 3-1, the Huskies fought back and cut the lead to one. Ty Petrou added a beautiful tally past a confused St. Mike's goalie and just like that the Huskies were

Sadly, the Buzzers closed out in the third period with Julian Campoli adding the final nail in the coffin and sending the Huskies back home empty handed.

The Cougars (Taylor's version)

The Huskies marked Saturday with their first ever Pink in the Rink match. Donning special Pink jerseys in support of breast cancer month, the Huskies honored three local cancer survivors before the match.

The Cougars opened up the scoring first when Trevor Hoskin managed to beat Fullerton, putting the Cougars up by one. Hoskin wasn't done there as he added the lone goal of the second period as well, doubling Cobourg's lead.

The Huskies got the board courtesy of Patty Saini absolutely ripping one past Ryan Piros, in another highlight reel performance from the Huskies Captain. Sadly, that would be the only Huskies goal as Matt Mueller and Justin Faulkner added the brace and the dagger to give their Huskies their first winless week of the 2023-24 OJHL campaign.

The Huskies play only a lone game this upcoming week, but begin what marks a three game homestand. Facing the Buzzers on Nov. 4, the Stouffville Spirit on Nov. 7 and the Markham Royals on Nov. 11.



Tickets Available for the 2024 Cash Calendar

When: Now until sold out Where: Multiple Locations- See Description The Haliburton and District Lions Club is now selling tickets for their 2024 Super Cash Calendar. Three draws happen the second Monday of every month from January 8th to October 14th 2024. Please visit www. haliburtonlions.com for a list of ticket locations and for more information.

Contract Bridge

When: Every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon Where: Minden United Church basement, 21 Newcastle Street

Our weekly contract bridge has resumed and it's hoped that many of those who played before Covid will come back, along with new members. All levels of skill welcomed.

Seniors Chair Exercises

When: Thursdays, at 1pm Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain Street

Please join us, starting Thursday November 2nd, for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Outdoor Christmas Pots

When: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 7 p.m. Where: Minden Community Center, 55 Parkside St Minden

Minden & District Horticultural Society invites vou to come listen and watch our guest speaker Lorranine Turcotte demonstrate making Outdoor Christmas Pots.

When: Tuesday, November 7, 7 to 8 pm Where: Castle Antiques at 223 Highland St. Please join us for live music and uplifting conversation contributing to our own personal well-being and that of our community. Light refreshments available. Free admission, welcoming people of all backgrounds. Sponsored by the Baha'i community of Haliburton.

Online Holiday Auction

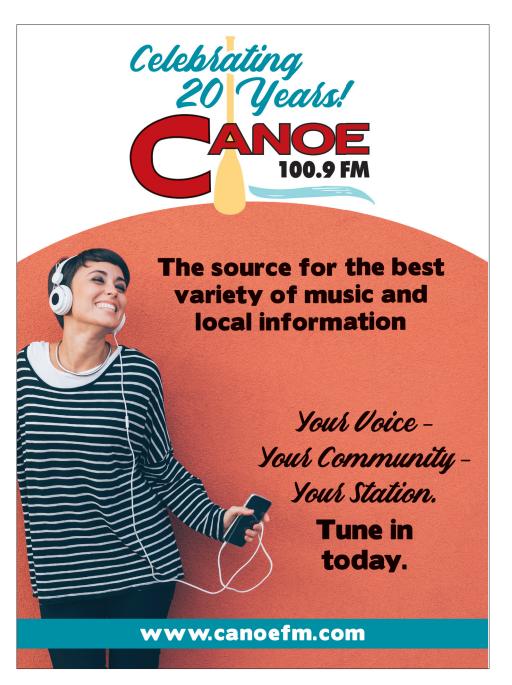
When: Nov. 10 at 8 a.m. to Nov. 19 4 p.m. Where: Online, see details below Visit the Minden Rotary Online Holiday Auction. All funds will be used to support local initiatives in the Haliburton Highlands community. To register, or for more information, please visit www.charityauction.bid/mindenrotary2023.

Minden Legion Branch 636 Lunch - Monday to Friday

Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m. Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m. Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m. Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m. Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.

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Cheyenne Degeer has been recruited to play for St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York in 2025 after she's graduated from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. /Submitted

Degeer commits to NCAA university for hockey

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

At only 15-years-old, Cheyenne Degeer has committed to St. Lawrence University in Canton New York for hockey when she graduates from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

As an National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division 1 school, her dad, Tim Degeer, says its nearly the equivalent to the NHL for women.

The Grade 11 student has also been selected to represent Team Ontario at the National Women's U18 Championship being held in Dawson Creek, British Columbia from Nov. 5 to 11 on "team blue."

"I've been playing hockey since I was two and started in Wilberforce," Cheyenne said. "I love the competition and the people I get to meet. I've met so many amazing teammates and coaches in all the years I've played hockey. I have such great memories and experiences."

Tim explained that US universities have been watching Cheyenne play for years, but they weren't allowed to reach out until she finished Grade 10.

"We talked to several schools over the course of the summer, then did some visits,

and then you've got an opportunity to make verbal commitments when they decide if they want to offer you a spot," Tim said.

The lifelong Haliburton County resident said St. Lawrence stuck out to her among the

"I really liked the town, it's a small town very similar to Haliburton. It made me feel like I was at home," she said. "I also really liked the hockey program, the coaches and players they have there. It's also really close to Ontario."

Tim added that many influential hockey players started out at St. Lawrence.

"It's a small school, but it's almost like a hockey museum. There's a lot of history there that goes back decades in both the women's and men's programs," Tim said. "A lot of NHLers historically have gone through St. Lawrence.'

Until 2025, Degeer plays for the Central York Junior Panthers which is in the Ontario Women's Hockey League U22 Elite league.

She'll miss the next 10 days of Central York games to go to the National Championships in BC.

"It's really exciting. It's been a lot of work over a lot of years. It's been a long process in getting here," Tim said. "We're so proud



Having a ball

In honour of Breast Cancer Awareness month, The Rockcliffe and The Riverside Inn hosted the "Big Bad Boobie Ball", a fundraising event to raise awareness and funds for The Kelly Shire Foundation and a dear friend in the community, Amanda, who is battling breast cancer. The event took place on Sunday Oct. 29, at the Rockcliffe in Moore Falls. The venue was decorated in all things pink, right down to the pink-themed cocktails and rosé wine. Supporters attended wearing embellished bras overtop of their clothes and participated in a costume contest, pay-to-sing karaoke and a silent auction. /BRITNEY PAGLIUCA Staff

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DOCUMENTARY SCREENING EVENT

"UNWANTED SOLDIERS"

This documentary tells the personal story of filmmaker Jari Osborne's father, a Chinese-Canadian veteran, She describes her father's involvement in World War II and uncovers a legacy of discrimination and racism against **British Columbia's Chinese-Canadian** community. Sworn to secrecy for decades, Osborne's father and his war buddies now vividly recall their topsecret missions behind enemy lines in Southeast Asia. Theirs is a tale of young men proudly fighting for a country that had mistreated them. This film does more than reveal an important period in Canadian history. It pays moving tribute to a father's quiet

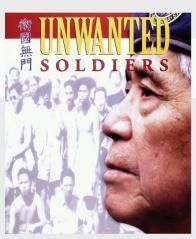


oyal Canadian Legic Branch 636 - Minder

Event hosted by Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library, Minden Branch







written and directed by Jari **Osborne (1999)**

PG 13

Free Admission

9 Nov 2023 5:00 p.m.

@ Minden Hills Cultural Centre 176 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden ON Contact us: (705) 286-3763

Film supplied courtesy of National Film Board of Canada (NFB)



Creating a community: catching up with Kaitlyn Hillier by EMILY STONEHOUSE it was not one baby, but two, life started get-

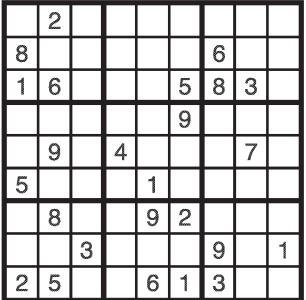


Kaitlyn Hillier and her husband, Harry Bunton, have twin boys and currently reside in Australia. Hillier attended Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, and sat down to reflect on her adventures into motherhood so far. /DANIELLE MEREDITH Special to the Times

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Answers on page 13

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

In a small town, sometimes we don't see the scope of the world for what it is. For Kaitlyn Hillier, she knew Minden was only the beginning.

The full-time content creator resides in Sydney, Australia, with her twin toddlers Oscar and Brooks, and her husband, Harry. "But Minden will always be home," she said over a FaceTime interview, "and I really want my kids to grow up knowing this community.'

While she was waking up and I was winding down for the day on separate continents. she took some time out of her busy schedule to chat about growing up in Haliburton County, making her big move overseas, and finding her community online.

Hillier grew up in Minden, and attended Archie Stouffer Elementary School before heading to Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. She was active in all athletics as she worked her way through school, but was bitten by the travel bug shortly after. Hillier went on to explore different corners of the world before landing in Toronto. "I was exploring and partying and doing the things you do in your 20s, but I always knew at my core that I wanted to be a mom," she said, "so I really did want to meet someone."

This was when her paths crossed with Harry Bunton, who was on a year-long contract position with work in Toronto, but was born and raised in Sydney. The two met after he had been in Canada for only a few short weeks, and the two became "inseparable" according to Hillier. "We were both all in."

When Harry's contract came to an end, the two had to make a big decision: stay in Canada or head back to Sydney. "So we decided to trade in snow for beaches," Hillier laughed, "and we didn't think it would be a forever thing. We thought we could have an adventure together."

But then, four months after they settled into their new home, the world shut down with the COVID-19 pandemic. Hillier knew that if she left Australia, she would not be allowed back in indefinitely while the lockdowns ebbed and flowed, so they made the decision to make the most of this new chapter in their lives.

Kaitlyn and Harry got engaged shortly after, before finding out that they were expecting their first child together. "I remember going to that first ultrasound, not knowing what we were having, and thinking to myself 'there could be two in there!' But I really never imagined that could be true!"

Twins do not run on either side of their families, so when the couple found out that

ting pretty interesting. "I was so happy," said Hillier, "but also so, so scared. It was the height of the pandemic, I was living in another country without any family. I felt super isolated, and really scared."

This was when she turned to social media. "Google had become a very scary place," said Hillier, sharing that she didn't know where to look when it came to questions about the high risk pregnancy, "so I started looking up hashtags on Instagram, and I would read what other moms said, I would message other moms, and it would bring me to real people who were going through this. It was the only thing that would bring me comfort and peace of mind."

At this point, Hillier started documenting her own pregnancy journey; showcasing the highs, the lows, and everything in between. "I always wanted there to be an educational component," said Hillier, "and an overarching theme I share is to be the realistic mom. I try to show all the angles of that."

Hillier noted that while social media is a place where people can connect, she recognizes that it also has the ability to be dangerous. "It's easy to compare yourself to some of the moms you see on social media," she said, "but if all you ever see is that shiny outlook, it can really impact your mental health."

That's why Hillier is dedicated to showcasing the real and raw side of motherhood, hoping to connect with mothers around the world who may be feeling the same fears, challenges, and isolation that she continues to experience on occasion. Her following has reached over 215,000 on Instagram, and 430,000 on Tik Tok. "I just think about some of the things I wish I had heard when I was pregnant or those early days of motherhood, and I try to talk about that, so that other people don't feel so alone."

While she has found her community online, Hillier reflected back on the community she has at home. She brings her family back to Minden every summer, but for now, she knows that Sydney is home.

"There are so many opportunities for my kids here, and I know some of these things just wouldn't be possible in a small town,' she noted. "There is such a diversity of activities here.

But while Sydney may be home, she continues to carry Minden in her heart, and raise her kids with the compassion that she believes she learned from growing up in Canada. "I'll forever be very proud of Minden."

Did someone you know graduate from Hal High and are doing great things in the world now? We'd love to share their story! Email emily@haliburtonpress.com to be featured in an upcoming Where are they now?

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Spooky Salon

Saturday Oct. 28, Ommmh... and EAT in downtown Minden hosted a "Haunted Salon Halloween Bash". Their unique space was transformed with lights, spooky decorations, outdoor firepits and festive food. Party-goers enjoyed music brought to them by DJ Chris Evans, tarot card readings by Larissa Thomas and craft cocktails made by owner Shawn Laven. /BRITNEY PAGLIUCA Staff



Minden Subaru sponsors HHHS

Minden Subaru announces their commitment to sponsor the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHS Foundation) 50/50 lottery Driven by Minden Subaru until June 30, 2025. Tammy LaRue shared "We are deeply invested in Haliburton County, and this collaboration allows us to show our support year-round." This sponsorship renewal reinforces Minden Subaru's dedication to local support across

The HHHS Foundation 50/50 lottery, a monthly draw, contributes funding toward priority capital equipment purchases that reflect the needs of the communities in the region and ensure that health care professionals have the necessary tools to provide timely and accurate care to residents and visitors.

Melanie Klodt Wong, Executive Director of the HHHS Foundation, has ambitious plans for the lottery. She aspires to see the jackpot grow to rival some of the larger 50/50 lotteries, allowing for substantial winnings. The portion of the funds that stay within the community benefit everyone.

For those eager to participate, HHHS Foundation 50/50 tickets are available for purchase online at hhhsf5050.ca or in person at the Foundation office located at the HHHS Haliburton site. The November and December lotteries will be combined into one jackpot draw on December 29, 2023, so now is the time to give the 50/50 lottery a try!

The ongoing partnership between Minden Subaru and the HHHS Foundation represents a significant step towards enhancing healthcare in Haliburton County. It reflects the strength of the community coming together to support a vital cause, and once again illustrates that we are a community that cares.

For more information about the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation 50/50 Lottery visit hhhsf5050. ca. For interview requests, please email Melanie Klodt Wong, Executive Director of the HHHS Foundation (mklodtwong@ hhhs.ca).

Submitted

SUDOKU SOLUTION

9	2	5	6	8	3	4	1	7
8	3	7	1	2	4	6	5	9
1	6	4	9	7	5	8	3	2
7	1	8	2	3	9	5	4	6
3	9	2	4	5	6	1	7	8
5	4	6	8	1	7	2	9	3
4	8	1	3	9	2	7	6	5
6	7	3	5	4	8	9	2	1
2	5	9	7	6	1	3	8	4



New community partnership kicks off

Boshkung Brewing Company and Truss Foodworks Inc. are thrilled to announce the unification of their businesses under new ownership, creating a year-round community hospitality hub. The businesses will now be helmed by the dynamic duo of Mathew Renda and Mike Rae. Effective immediately, Truss Foodworks Inc. will be rebranded as "Boshkung Smokehouse" to better represent this exciting partnership.

This groundbreaking collaboration signifies a fresh chapter in the industry, dedicated to offering patrons an exceptional culinary and beverage experience, while also fostering year-round employment opportunities for the community in Haliburton County.

Mathew Renda and Mike Rae, the proprietors of this unified venture, express their enthusiasm, saying, "This marks the inception of a new and thrilling era, and we are honoured to have the community alongside us."

Rest assured, this merger will in no way compromise the exceptional quality for which both companies are renowned. The delectable fare of Boshkung Smokehouse and the superb brews from Boshkung Brewing Company will continue to delight customers, preserving the flavours they have come to cherish.

This momentous partnership between Boshkung Brewing Company and Boshkung Smokehouse promises an exciting future for patrons and employees alike, uniting two pillars of hospitality excellence into one thriving establishment.

By merging forces, Boshkung Brewing Co. and Boshkung Smokehouse will introduce an array of exciting initiatives, including:

- Year-round Employment Opportunities spanning multiple locations
- Reduced Beer Prices: Available at Boshkung Smokehouse (formerly Truss Foodworks Inc.) and Smoke On The Water facilities
- Competitive Retail Pricing: For take-out beer at Boshkung Smokehouse (formerly Truss Foodworks) and Smoke on The Water facilities
- Beer & Food Combos: Offered at Boshkung Social, Boshkung Smokehouse (formerly Truss Foodworks), and Smoke On The Water facilities
- One-Stop Shop: Catering and Bar Services, accessible across the county

Submitted



Global Day of Climate Protest

On Saturday, Nov. 4 at 1 p.m., a peaceful protest will take place in front of the locomotive across from Head Lake in the village of Haliburton. This is part of a global movement organized by 350.org. The theme of the protest is to advocate for climate solutions such as conservation of energy, renewable energy and heat pumps. Climate scientists are clear that we must end the expansion of fossil fuels immediately and wind down their use as soon as possible. And that is not happening anywhere near fast enough.

From forest fires to flash flooding, the impacts of the climate emergency are being felt more often and more severely than ever before. Fossil fuel companies are raking in

billions by exploiting communities, workers, and the climate. But these corporations are enabled by governments around the world, including our federal leaders in Ottawa, who are pouring billions of our tax dollars into the industry while greenlighting new fossil fuel extraction and transportation projects.

The message of this protest is to call on our leaders to cut ties with fossil fuels, make polluters pay and invest in powering a just transition at home and abroad. Across the world, communities will be joining protests to advocate for a healthy climate. Please join us. For information, please call 705-457-9239.

Submitted



Howling with the Wolves

Red Wolves athlete Tori Deubel celebrates after getting a strike during the local special olympics team's annual Bowl-a-Thon on Saturday, Oct. 28 at Fast Lane Bowling in Minden. The fundraiser brought in over \$7,000 to support the Red Wolves athletes be able to attend and participate in their sports. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Haliburton County Red Wolves Bowl-a-thon organizers share a laugh during



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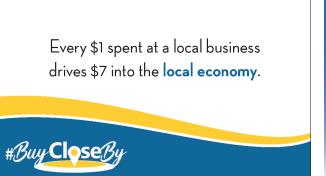
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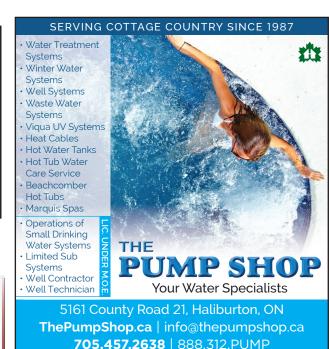
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Square bales of hay for sale. You pick up \$4.00 per bale. Delivery possible. Please call 705-488-2887.

220 YARD/GARAGE SALES

Huge Indoor Garage Sale without the garage. 134 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden Saturday, November 4 from 8am to 4pm at The Tool Box. Wood, cabinet hardware, doors, door hardware, tools small and large, windows and doors for your project needs. Making room for new inventory. Very reasonable prices such as 10" saw blades \$10 each or make an offer for quantity. Buy more save more. All items marked \$5, \$10, \$15, in five dollar increments. Set your calendars. Measure your project. Make your list. I hope to see you there!

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Minden Times

650 OBITUARIES



The Beatles

In Loving Memory of Allan "Al" John Sharkey

On October 27th, 2023 beloved Sharkey family patriarch Allan "Al" John Sharkey passed away peacefully at his home in Port Perry, Ontario at the age of 77.

He was born in 1946 in Edinburgh, Scotland, and grew up in East York, Toronto with his two brothers and best friends David and the late Brian Sharkey. He met his wife Dorothy (nee Laureen and Eldon McCracken) in Minden, where he was

stationed as a newly trained OPP officer, and they were married for 53 loving years. Beloved father to Janean, John and his wife Jessica and grandfather to their two children Evan and Charlotte Sharkey.

In his early years he played and coached baseball, and hockey (he was awarded the East York Hockey Association Coach of the Year 1971-1972) and was also an avid golfer. He later worked in sales and owned an automotive battery company before he was forced to retire early due to his health. Although he endured a long battle with his health, he showed up every day to the best of his ability to support his family. He was proud of his children's and grandchildren's successes and was very cherished in their lives. He was a kind, generous, loving man with a great sense of humour. He loved the Beatles and British murder mystery series. Words can only go so far in expressing our love for Al and what a loss this is but we appreciate all of the heartfelt messages of support we have received from those that loved him.

Memorial services are not planned but may be in the future. Cremation has taken place. Interment at the Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery, Carnarvon.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you consider signing your organ donor card and for donations to be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and Trillium Gift of Life Network and would be appreciated by the family and can

be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. "And in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make"



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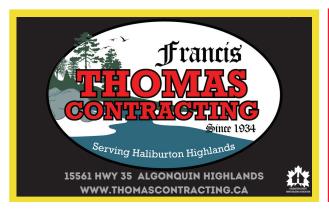
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HALLOWE'EN **PARTY** Saturday, October 28 at The World Famous OCKCLIFFE

Number 1390

Monday, October 16, 1989

Highlights

Trappers angered

Trappers are upset at the Ministry of Natural Resources' decision to eliminate the wolf harvest this year in Algonquin Park. Please see page 2

Sunship Earth

The Grade 7 students from Archie Stouffer Elementary School boarded the Sunship Earth for a four day orbit around the sun last week. Please see page 6

Better policing

The policing of Haliburton Village may see some improvements if a community-based police program can be implemented. Please see page 9

Salvage vard

A ratepayers association is being formed in Snowdon Township to combat a plan to set up a salvage yard in Gelert. Please see page 28.



The HHSS Junior Soccer team had their hands full when they met up with the aggressive I.E. Weldon Club last Wednesday on Haliburton's soil. The Redmen fell 3-0 to the Wildcats in this match. The senior team didn't have any better luck, losing 4-3 in the second game of the day. Chris Holliday-Rhodes had to leave the field in the first half with an eye injury and coach Walter Tose said his presence was missed. The Wildcats scored a couple of flukey goals that helped give them the edge in this match. Jan Haedicke scored two of Haliburton's goals while Darryl Winder scored one. Holliday Rhodes was still in the hospital in Bracebridge as of last Friday. The Redmen's final game of the schedule is Wednesday at LCVI. They need a win to qualify for the playoffs.

Ride will return

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

The Ride for Sight is returning to Minden.

Council voted unanimously last Wednesday to allow the two-day event to take place on the Fair Grounds next year as a result of a strong vote of confidence from the community.

Ride for Sight representatives Syd Collier and Jerry German attended the meeting to hear council's decision whether or not the charity motorcyle rally would be allowed back to Minden for another year.

Reeve Ray Moore opened the discussion by reading a prepared statement supporting the Ride. He said he had considered all the critisms voiced against the event such as the inconvenience of street blockages, noise and the costs of policing involved. "These are perhaps our own selfish individual reasons for not wanting this event to return to Minden," Moore said.

"However, as Reeve of Anson, Hindon and Minden Townships, I must weigh the benefits against the few isolated incidents that have taken place and help to eliminate the perceived cultural vision of motorcyclist."

If Minden is not receptive to the Ride for Sight, some other community will be, said Moore, and the area will lose "the exposure of our community through the media to thousands of

(more on page 14)

New columnist in The Times

The 1990's have been called the "turn around decade", the time when action must be taken to halt and reverse the degredation man has visited on this planet. For years warning signals have been raised pointing out that the world community is rapidly coming to the end of the finite resources that sustain human existence ... clean air, clean water, arable

Among those who have taken a leadership role environmentalist Dr. David Suzuki. This week we are pleased to welcome Dr. Suzuki to our pages as a weekly columnist.

Dr. Suzuki has made a major contribution to increasing awareness of the crisis facing our planet. His ideas are sometimes controversial and often challenge the way we perceive the world around us and its resources. But, as many have pointed out, there is little time left to simply ignore the growing dilemma. It is time to think and act. We believe the weekly commentary offered by Dr. Suzuki will provide an enlightened and informed forum which will help chart our way through the turn around decade.

Pines will be spared

Minden's Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery is not going to

There has been concern recently that the township was planning to chop down all the white and red pines which have been on the property for up to 100 years. But council laid those fears to rest when they assured that only the dead and dying trees would be removed and that the healthy white pines would be left uncut.

A group of people opposed to cutting the trees attended last Wednesday's council meeting armed with a petition signed by more than 20 local residents.

The group's spokesperson, Marilyn Mighton, addressed

(more on page 11)

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